

26th August 1926]

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" May I know whether any announcement was made through the Department of Labour or, through the regular agency of the Educational Department to the effect that on the production of a poverty certificate, such a remission of fees will be given to the members of the depressed classes ? "

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" Wide publicity is given to the rule, by sending copies of the rules to the head of each school for publication."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" Many of them are ignorant of these rules. I want to know if the hon. the Minister for Education will kindly see that such announcement is made widely ? "

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" If the hon. Member suggests any other method by which greater publicity could be given, I am prepared to consider it."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU :—" Is there anything to prevent the hon. Member Mr. R. Veerian from giving such wide publicity ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Order, order. That is not within the cognizance of the hon. Member."

Concessions to Jesuit and Mill-Hill Fathers.

* 2321 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) what and through whom inquiries were made before concessions were granted under Rule 14 of the Madras Educational Rules (1924) to Jesuit and Mill-Hill Fathers as to teacher's qualifications ;

(b) whether any inquiry was then made as to the educational qualifications of the Indian secular clergy and the pastors of the Kanarese Evangelical Missions for granting them similar concessions ;

(c) whether Government consider after due enquiry that their educational qualifications coupled with teaching training qualify them for some concessions and, if so, to what extent ; and

(d) what is the training they receive in various subjects in the seminaries and thereafter, as ordained catechists, evangelists and preachers, as well as during their course in the seminaries ?

A.—(a) The courses of studies adopted by the Societies were examined by the Director of Public Instruction.

(b) No.

(c) & (d) The question will be considered if found necessary.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Sir, with reference to clause (b), may I enquire why no enquiry was made as to the educational qualifications of the Indian secular clergy and the pastors ? "

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" The Government found it unnecessary to make such an enquiry."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Are the Government aware that a large number of secular clergy and pastors of the Mission are in charge of schools and manage schools ? "

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The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" They are aware of it."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" And are the Government aware that these secular clergy and pastors have long training in teaching?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Order, order. The hon. Member is imparting information rather than asking for it."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" What I enquire is whether Government are aware of this fact."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" What is the point?"

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" The point is whether they are aware or not of the fact that these clergy and pastors are given charge of a school, and although having long training."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I must again point out that the hon. Member is imparting information rather than asking for information. The hon. Member knows the pastors undergo training before they are given charge of a school. What is the point about asking the question?"

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" I submit that it is for the public. It is a point of great interest to the public to know whether the Government are aware of a certain fact or not. I may know very well, but it is not for my private consumption that the question is asked."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The object of a question is to find information, which the hon. Member may not be in possession of. But why ask for information which the hon. Member is in possession of?"

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" If the Government are aware of this and have not yet taken action, it follows that they have considered the question and have not taken any action. But if they are not aware of it, it is for us to draw the attention of the Government to it, so that they may take such action as they may consider necessary."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" With reference to clauses (c) and (d), may I know, Sir, what is the significance of the word 'necessary' and under what circumstances would they consider it 'necessary'?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" There is no need at present to go into the matter at all. Until fresh circumstances are brought to light, they will find it unnecessary to go into it."

Alleged disabilities of Indian Christians in the Educational Department.

* 2322 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether representations have been received from anybody in South Kanara as to the Indian Christians' disabilities in the Educational Department; and

(b) what action Government have taken or propose to take on them?

A.—(a) & (b) Yes, the representations related to—

(i) fee concessions to Indian Christian pupils belonging to communities other than those classed as depressed;

(ii) recognition of the Indian Secular clergy of South Kanara and the Pastors of the Kanarese Evangelical Mission as secondary trained teachers; and